



# The Pathfinder

Branch Number 59

Twenty-Eighth Year

October 2003

Bulletin No. 9

If you are not coming or  
if you are bringing a guest or visitor

**Please Call before Monday October 13th**

Fred Gotthardt - 797-4592  
Manuel Silva - 793-2705  
Arnold Mozzetti - 797-2127



## NEXT MEETING at Swiss Park - October 16, 2003

### Words to Live By Big Sir Don Henry

History of Branch 59 continued from last month...

In July 1979 membership was reported at 174. The purchase of a Polaroid camera was authorized in April 1980. Three years later in 1983 membership increased to 176 active members with 12 inactive members.



Sweetheart and Christmas parties moved to Newark Pavilion for \$7.50 per person. Monthly attendance hovered between 141 and 151. Bank balance reported at \$860.83. (Highest I have noticed so far.)

The year 1984 mentioned A's baseball day, golf, and bowling being successful as was a trip to Reno. In 1985 we voted to remain at Newark Pavilion despite a rent increase. Also, purchase of a public address system was authorized. Membership voted to prohibit smoking at meetings and luncheon. A picnic was held at Lake Elizabeth. That year we also applied for lower postal rates. (Names like Hixenbaugh, Hubach, and Fretter began to show up in minutes.) The year 1986 was our 10-year anniversary and we showed 183 active and 21 inactive members.

To be continued —

*Don*

### October Menu



**Beef Tri Tip**  
Chili Beans  
Salad  
Garlic Bread  
Coffee and Dessert

## Our Speaker

*Little Sir Tom Sherba*

Paul Piraino, General Manager of the Alameda County Water District, is our speaker this month. His topic will be the recently dedicated first brackish water desalination facility in northern California. It will use a process known as reverse osmosis to remove salts and other minerals from slightly salty groundwater. The resulting high quality water will be blended with other supplies before being delivered to residents and businesses in Newark, Fremont, and Union City.



The original concept for the desalination facility dates back to the early 1990s and involved at least six ACWD Board members, including SIR members Frank Borghi and Art Lampert, as well as long-time Newark resident Clark Redeker to whom the facility was dedicated.

With the ability to convert 5 million gallons of brackish water to potable drinking water every day, the desalination facility represents a new source of water for the Tri-City area.

The State Water Project, San Francisco's Hetch Hetchy system, local runoff water, in addition to the Desalination Facility, supplies the ACWD.

The Desalination Facility is part of ACWD's Aquifer Reclamation Program, which began in 1974 with the goal of reclaiming those portions of the Niles Cone Groundwater Basin affected by saltwater intrusion from San Francisco Bay in the last century. The District pumps brackish water from the groundwater basin so that freshwater from other parts of the basin can move in to take its place

The Alameda County Water District hired Piraino in 1982. He started as the District's Personnel and Industrial Relations Manager, and then was promoted to the positions of Manager of Administration, Assistant General Manager, and in 1997 to General Manager.

continued on page 5

**Get your SIR Badges & Emblems - baseball caps with SIR logos are available for \$8.50-\$12.50**

## Branch 59 Officers

### Big Sir

Don Henry  
(510) 656-5659

### Little Sir

Tom Sherba  
(510) 793-3217

### Secretary

Al Wydler  
(510) 278-4380

### Asst. Secretary

Drag Dutina  
(510) 657-1037

### Treasurer

Louis Bufkin  
(510) 651-8664

### Asst. Treasurer

Fred Stabell  
(510) 657-7392

### Directors

Rollin Cunningham  
Herb Epstein  
George Hubach  
William Leake  
Chris Lemler  
Frank Thomas

## Branch 59

Meets at Swiss Park  
5911 Mowry Avenue  
Newark  
on the 3rd Thursday of  
each month  
10AM Executive Board  
Meeting  
11AM Social Hour  
12 Noon Lunch

**A Nonprofit  
public benefit  
corporation for  
retired men**



## Edited Excerpts from the Minutes of Sir Al Wydler

The meeting was called to order at our new location, Swiss Park, at 10:22 am. Roll call following the Pledge of Allegiance indicated five Officers and four Directors to be present. This constituted a quorum. There were no significant corrections to the August 21 meeting minutes, so they were approved as presented.

Big Sir Don Henry reminds us of the Training session for new officers to be held October 20 at San Ramon. He has provided the Manager of Swiss Park with a copy of our Insurance coverage. The new luncheon price of \$11 includes food cost and related expenses. The approval for these actions was unanimous.

Attendance Chairman Sir Fred Gotthardt reported that the expected attendance for today is 210 and expects no immediate problem with the occupancy limitation, as we have never had more than 220 present for lunch. The Computer group will meet September 22 at 2:00 pm.

Membership Chairman Sir Ed Bingle reported there would be three new members joining today. Also, two members have resigned and one member requested to go to inactive status.

Baseball Chairman Sir Nat Lord reported with the home play ending, that this was a very enjoyable year.

Birthdays Chairman Sir Art Winkley reports 25 celebrants today, including two former Big Sirs and three officers.

Historian Sir Drag Dutina has our original Branch 59 framed Charter on display.

Circulation Chairman Sir Bill Briscoe requested that all future inserts to the Pathfinder be submitted directly to Pathfinder editor Sir John Skarpelos. Closing date for the newsletter this month is September 26.

Sir Nat Lord and Sir Rollin Cunningham volunteered to collect Lunch tickets and Badges.

Social Chairman Sir Bob Benya requested we place the Christmas Party on our Calendar.

Sir Bob Beam is resigning as Area 8 Governor. Branch 126 is planning to merge with Branch 72. Branches in Area 8 and Area 28 may be included in one area under Ken Grace, present Governor of Area 28.

BIG Sir Don Henry, during our move, uncovered many items in storage such as three American Flags, a SIR Banner, a large Rooster Statue and the charter plaque. He presented a list and requested disposal instructions for the other useless, obsolete and outdated items.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:10 am. Respectfully Submitted, Alfred Wydler, Secretary

## Financial Report by Lou Bufkin



The month of August started with a checkbook balance of \$3534.71. General fund receipts totaled \$374.78. General fund disbursements totaled \$234.44 they included printing, postage, rent. Ending checkbook balance was \$3675.05.



## HAPPY HALLOWEEN

A couple was invited to a swanky masked Halloween Party. She got a terrible headache and told her husband to go to the party alone. He, being a devoted husband, protested, but she argued and said she was going to take some aspirin and go to bed, and there was no need of his good time being spoiled by not going. So he took his costume and away he went.

The wife, after sleeping soundly for one hour, awakened without pain, and as it was still early, she decided to go to the party. In as much as her husband did not know what her costume was, she thought she would have some fun by watching her husband to see how he acted when she was not with him.

She joined the party and soon spotted her husband cavorting around on the dance floor, dancing with every nice chick he could, and copping a little feel here and a little kiss there. His wife sidled up to him and being a rather seductive babe herself, he left his partner high and dry and devoted his time to the new lady that had just arrived.

She let him go as far as he wished; naturally, since he was her husband. Finally he whispered a little proposition in her ear and she agreed, so off they went.

Just before unmasking at midnight, she slipped away and went home and put the costume away and got into bed, wondering what kind of explanation he would make for his behavior.

She was sitting up reading when he came in and asked what kind of a time he had. He said, "Oh, the same old thing. You know I never have a good time when you're not there."

Then she asked, "Did you dance much?"

He replied, "I'll tell you, I never even danced one dance. When I got there, I met Pete, Bill Brown and some other guys, so we went into the den and played poker all evening. But I'll tell you... the guy I loaned my costume to sure had a real good time!"

# MEMBERSHIP, ATTENDANCE and BIRTHDAY NEWS

by Sir Ed Bingle, Sir Fred Gotthardt, and Sir Art Winkley

## New Members

**Paul E. Bleignier**  
37946 Alta Drive  
Fremont, CA 94536-7172  
510-797-2087  
Email: pblanyer@aol.com  
Birthday: 7/7/1932  
Badge No. 149  
Sponsor: Robert Leinkram  
Call me: Paul

**Sam Mitchell**  
8214 Mayhews Landing  
Road  
Newark, CA 94560-2757  
510-796-7121  
Email: cudles@earthlink.net  
Birthday: 3/4/1932  
Spouse: JoAnn  
Badge No. 163  
Sponsor: John Clark  
Call me: Sam

**Mike Whitfield**  
2785 Washington Blvd.  
Fremont, CA 94539-5070  
510-656-2959  
Email: mikeedna@comcast.com  
Birthday: 9/8/1924  
Spouse: Edna  
Badge No. 91  
Sponsor: Tony Olson  
Call me: Mike

## Membership Report

**Guests:** Ken Grimes  
**Guest of:** Niels Nielson

**Visitors:** None  
**Guest of:**

**Membership Total**  
(as of 9/18/2003)

**281 - Active Members**  
16 - Inactive Members

### Change of Status:

Donald Blood – Transfer to Inactive  
Don Farquharson – Resigned  
Lee Mosley – Transfer to Inactive  
Gail Shipp – Resigned

### Attendance Report

  
(For 9/18/2003)

Members	198
Guests	1
Visitors	0
Speakers	2
<b>Total =</b>	<b>201</b>

54 excused 28 unexcused



## October Birthdays

Frank Bettencourt	10/02/1917	86
Felix Dandois	10/10/1917	86
Manuel Braga	10/29/1919	84
Louie Benites	10/12/1920	83
Paul Lewis	10/13/1921	82
Rollin Cunningham	10/22/1921	82
Robert Heiney	10/18/1922	81
Calvin Oliveira	10/29/1922	81
Charles Beyers	10/29/1922	81
Calvin Lynch	10/13/1923	80
Ray Faria Jr.	10/23/1923	80
Al Fernandes	10/04/1925	78
Arthur Shiffrar	10/07/1926	77
John Ockes	10/05/1927	76
Stanley Lewis	10/11/1927	76
Fred Gotthardt	10/30/1927	76
Jack Abraham	10/21/1928	75
Robert McGrath	10/04/1929	74
Gene Anderson	10/10/1929	74
Peter Angelides	10/15/1929	74
Harry Citron	10/19/1929	74
Henry Scherer, Jr.	10/10/1931	72
Arthur McGrath	10/05/1932	71
Alan Douglass	10/23/1932	71
Lynn Purvis	10/29/1932	71
Don Schreiber	10/30/1932	71
Anthony Bruno	10/08/1933	70
Jerry Springer	10/19/1933	70
Hugh Twomey	10/24/1935	68
Edward Cook	10/07/1938	65
Daniel Lydon	10/30/1941	62
Robert Teglia	10/10/1942	61



Save the date December 18



# Holiday in Switzerland

*Exciting Raffle*  
*Social Hour 11:00 A.M.*  
*Luncheon at noon*

**Menu**  
**Geschnetzeltes (Huhn)**  
**Rot Kohl**  
**Rübe und Erbsen**  
**Strudel**

**The meal will be served**

We need donations for Raffle Prizes:  
White Elephants, Wine, Tickets for  
events, weekends at Cabin or Condo

See or call Nat Lord (797-1704) to reserve a Table

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Sweetheart's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Number in Party \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15 per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Make out check to **SIR Branch #59** and mail to:  
**Sir Bob Benya, 42224 Forsythia Drive, Fremont, CA 94539.** Tickets also available at October/November lunch.  
**Be sure to enclose a self-addressed and stamped envelope.**

# SIR BRANCH 59 ACTIVITIES

## Strikes and Spares

By Dave Dunlap

NAME	HIGH GAME	HIGH SERIES
Wayne Adams	131	349
Gary Bennett	187	510
Frank Cordova	235	610
Al Costa	179	449
Rollin Cunningham	182	496
Dave Dunlap	189	436
Ray Erickson	232	611
Ray Faria	148	413
Don Henry	246	603
Roy Johnson	186	515
Nat Lord	198	514
Frank Thomas	127	338
Carl Tolle	185	484
Art Winkley	186	481



Sir Gary Bennett was quite successful in the tournament at Reno. He finished ninth place in the singles, eleventh in the doubles and fifth in the all events categories winning \$122. Big Sir Don Henry aided Gary as his partner, in the doubles and collected \$30.

Big Sir Don and Sir Frank Cordova finished in eleventh place as partners in the doubles, at the Kentwig Lanes in Vallejo. They each received \$10 apiece.

At the meeting I forgot to mention that you don't have to be a top bowler or go to the out of town tournaments unless you want to. In fact some of the bowlers in our group don't.

If you want to have fun, meet us at Mowry Lanes on Mondays at 1:00 PM. By the way the cost is only \$4.50 for three games of bowling.

For more information call **Dave Dunlap 510-657-2603**.

## Baseball

There are no SIR sponsored Games scheduled for the rest of the year. If you have any great suggestions for next year call.

**Nat Lord 797-1704**

take a look at

<http://sirinc.org/sirforms/usingyourcomputer.htm>

## THE CYBERGEEZERS

Will meet Monday, October 20th at 2PM at Fremont Main Library.

Beginners and seasoned addicts are welcome to share Internet experiences, misinformation, frustrations, and gossip.

Call Chief Cybergeezer:

**Fred Gotthardt** at 797-4592



## Golf Notes

by Bill Leake

### Winners from Micke Grove

Congratulations to Tom Sherba (first place) and Dave Tanner (second place). They are eligible to compete for the SIR State Championship at Poppy Hills on October 27. Notable other - Ken Windholz (fifth place)



### Tilden Tourney Scores

Gary Calahan won first place in his flight plus closest to the pin for \$35 + a box of golf balls. Bill Dark won first place in his flight and won \$35. Dave Priego won 3 sticks of golf balls for placing 2nd place, closest to the pin. Tom Sherba and Darryl Moore won third place in their respective flights, each winning \$14.

### Solvang

Ben Fernandez team (4 man team, 2 man best ball) won 6th place in day one and he won \$50.

### NCGA Dues for 2004

NCGA dues are \$26 (\$25 + \$1 for administrative expenses) and they are due by the end of November. For new members, it is \$26 + \$10 = \$36. We must submit a roster to NCGA by the first week in December.

We have exciting things happening in 2004, including a tournament in San Diego, a new site for the Las Vegas tournament (no more Castaways), Mexico, Solvang, and others.

Any noteworthy comments – send them to me at [wml50@comcast.net](mailto:wml50@comcast.net) or call 793-6561.

## BRIDGE GROUPS

We have four bridge groups: Three of them are evening two table groups and each meets monthly. The 4th bridge group welcomes all members and meets after the monthly meeting.

**Drag Dutina** - 657-1037.



## PATHFINDERS WALKING AND HIKING GROUP

Meet Wednesday mornings at 8 AM at the Park at Paseo Padre and Isherwood. Everyone welcome and bring a friend.

**Don Henry** at 656-5659.

## READERS AND BROWSERS

Bring your magazines and books to share. Mysteries and westerns are popular books; please don't bring *Time*, *National Geographic* or *Modern Maturity*.

**Bob Matthies** 797-5638



# SUNSHINE CHAIRMAN SIR DAVE MARYMEE REPORTS

## CALLING OR SENDING A CARD COULD BE THIS DAY'S BEST DEED

**BOB DEBELAK** says walking with his right leg is as if he is walking with a clubfoot. Bob had a plastic blood vessel implanted in his right leg in July to improve circulation. Bob is on dialysis three times weekly.

**JOSEPH FARIAS's** wife, Clara, reports Joe celebrated his 90th birthday at a family reunion on Sunday, September 21st. He hopes to come to SIR luncheons soon. Joseph is recovering from a pedestrian/auto accident.

**RAY JARVIS** continues residing at Fremont Care Center (formerly Sunbridge) on Country Drive. Ray is mostly bedfast and continues treatment for arthritis. Stop and see Ray, bring a book, Ray likes to read.

**WILLIAM JOHNSON** is at home recovering from a stroke. He takes medication and uses a walker. Bill needs more recovery time before becoming active again in SIR. Keep on improving Bill.

**ED PICKL** missed the September luncheon due to illness. After numerous tests at Kaiser it was determined Ed was suffering from dehydration. Ed was to see an internist on September 22. Drink more water, Ed!

**BEN SMITH's** wife, Norma, reports Ben is doing OK. Ben missed the September luncheon for a family trip out of town.

**FRANK SMITH's** wife Joyce (aged 70) died from cancer September 4th. We at SIR extend our sympathy to Frank and his family. Frank is presently being treated for cancer of the stomach with antibiotics. Frank's next checkup is on October 9th. We wish the best for you Frank.

**GEORGE URQUAHART's** wife, Linda, reports George is back in Kaiser hospital in Fremont after returning home from therapy at Fremont Health Care Center where he was treated for a weakened heart condition. We hope your health improves soon George — we are pulling for you.

**CONRAD WALLA** is afflicted with hairy cell leukemia. He started chemotherapy early in September. He wore a fanny pack that self-injects the chemo medication fluid into his blood stream. Treatment was for a one-week period. We wish you the best, Con.

**JACK WEBB** says he is OK. In order to attend SIR luncheons at Swiss Park, he will have a much longer route riding his electric scooter. Jack says he may be able to use Fremont Para-transit to reach Swiss Park. Hope you can make the luncheons Jack.

### THE BEGINNING OF SONS IN RETIREMENT, INC.

Realizing the social nature of man and his desire for the company of others, particularly those retired from gainful employment in commercial and professional life, the late Damian L. Reynolds conceived the idea of Sons In Retirement in the spring of 1958.

From time to time, three friends, all retired, would meet with Mr. Reynolds for a friendly luncheon. He suggested to those three, Messrs. Claus Hinks, Lorenz Hansen and Wallace Plummer, that they join him in his idea of a monthly luncheon club for retired men for the purpose of maintaining old friendships, making new acquaintances and avoiding the boredom caused by inactivity. A kickoff luncheon was held in the Clarimar Restaurant in San Mateo, California on July 29, 1958. Five additional friends of the four founders came to the luncheon. They were Messrs. George Rogers, Clarence Johnson, Conrad Lange, Lloyd Cartmill and William Torello.

The name Sons In Retirement was unanimously adopted by eighteen members of the club at a second meeting on August 12, 1958. Consideration was given to several other names, none of which seemed to make clear the purpose of this fledgling group. Because most retired men wish for nothing to do with things pertaining to inactivity or laziness, the chosen name seemed to enunciate and give dignity to retirement. Since the name of the group was Sons In Retirement, one of the original group proposed that the club's executive officer be designated as the Big Sir, a salutation "indicating maturity and respect". Second in command would be known as the Little Sir.

Rules for the club were adopted on October 28, 1958. Among them were that members were not to be solicited for donations for outside groups or purposes. On January 10, 1962, this was further clarified to state solicitation was permitted only to provide funds to carry out the purposes of the club.

The corporation's copyrighted insignia is the rooster. Mr. Reynolds stated, "Of all the creatures on earth, none expresses independence and dignity with more sureness and aplomb than a rooster. The majesty of his presence is felt in every barnyard, and when he crows, he can be heard for miles, not a fainthearted crow, but with a noise that calls attention to his majestic being."

The new club's first bulletin was called "Yes Sir" and its publication was financed entirely by voluntary contributions, a tradition which continues to this day.

The club's slogan, "Promoting the Independence and Dignity of Retirement" speaks to the purpose and the long range goals of Sons In Retirement, Inc., that were set forth by our founders in 1958.

### continued from page 1

Piraino has over 30 years of service in the public sector in California. A native of northeastern Ohio he received his undergraduate degree from Kenyon College Gambier, Ohio. In 1971 he attended graduate school at the University of California, Berkeley. He received a Masters Degree in Public Administration from City University in Seattle, WA. In 1972, he went to work for the State of California, Employment Development Department. In 1973 he joined the County of Alameda as an Assistant Staff Analyst in the Social Services Agency and held several positions there. He left Alameda County in 1981 to become the Personnel Director for the City of Daly City, the job he had before moving to ACWD in Fremont.

## Travel for Area 8 by Emile Lassalle



The travel committee of Hesperian Branch 26 has put together trips for the first 6 months of 2004 for Area 8 branches and hope Pathfinder Branch 59 and Redwood Branch 72 will travel with us. The flyers for these trips will be included with

your monthly Branch newsletter. It is important that when receiving the flyers, you complete the application and forward it to the Escort in charge of the trip with a **STAMPED SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE** so he can send your receipt back to you. When the trip is filled, we will continue to take **STAND-BYS** in case some one has to drop out.

When trips have show tickets included, we must advertise these trips up to 6 months in advanced since there is a date that we must inform the travel company as to what is sold, and release the unsold tickets.

The February Mystery trip will be loads of fun, we will leave Southland Shopping Center, and we might head east, north, south or west, but only the driver knows where. I do know that you should always wear good walking shoes; you will have to walk to the Restaurant. Our Mystery bus trips have always been a sell out, so sign up early.

Any questions call me at **(510) 538-7463** or email me at **sirs26@aol.com** — Emile.

## PATHFINDER BRANCH NO. 59

John Skarpelos, Editor  
1636 Vernal Avenue  
Fremont, CA 94539-4736



PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U. S. POSTAGE PAID  
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PERMIT NO. 163

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**PLEASE DELIVER BEFORE October 14, 2003**

### 2003 COMMITTEES

#### ATTENDANCE CHAIRMAN

Fred Gotthardt  
Manuel Silva, Asst.  
Arnold Mozzetti, Asst.

#### MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Ed Bingle  
Bob Ralston, Asst.

#### LIBRARIAN

Bob Matthies

#### SUNSHINE CHAIRMAN

Dave Marymee  
Charlie Swanson, Asst.

#### CAPS & EMBLEMS

Robert Edwards

#### SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Frank Thomas

#### BOWLING CHAIRMAN

Dave Dunlap  
Rollin Cunningham, Asst.

#### BIRTHDAYS

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Roger Aubin, Asst.

#### GOLF CHAIRMAN

Bill Leake  
Gerry Desmond, Asst.  
Darryl Moore, Asst.

#### WALKING GROUP

Don Henry

#### EDITOR PATHFINDER

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Fred Gotthardt, Asst.

#### CIRCULATION

Bill Briscoe  
Art Shiffnar, Asst.

#### ROSTER

John Skarpelos  
Fred Gotthardt, Asst.

#### GREETERS

Bruno Orsetti  
Joe Faria, Asst.

#### BASEBALL CHAIRMAN

Nat Lord

#### HISTORIAN

Drag Dutina

#### SONG LEADER

Frank Campos

#### BRIDGE

Drag Dutina  
Lee Hylton, Asst.

#### CYBERGEEZERS

Fred Gotthardt

#### SOCIAL CHAIRMAN

Bob Benya  
Bob Edwards, Asst.  
Herb Epstein, Asst.  
Nat Lord, Asst.

### STATE OFFICERS

#### State President

James G. Faverman

#### State Vice-President

Donald O. Schumacher

#### State Secretary

Langley Erickson

#### State Treasurer

James D. Long

#### Director, Region 6

Daniel B. Gilmore

#### Governor, Area 8

Robert L. Beam

### PATHFINDER DEADLINE

The next issue of the  
*Pathfinder* will be in  
November and the copy  
deadline will be Friday,  
October 24, 2003.

### PAST BIG SIRs

1976 Peter Clark\*  
1977 Karl Heine\*  
1978 Harry Cooper  
1979 Kanneth Foster\*  
1980 Larry Varblow\*  
1981 Guido Milano\*  
1982 Alex Fulton\*  
1983 Stephen Epler\*  
1984 George Herman\*  
1985 Ray Crosby\*  
1986 Loran Coburn  
1987 Robert Davis\*  
1988 Robert Klindt  
1989 Martin Annen\*  
1990 Lee Updegraff  
1991 Fred W. Fretter\*  
1992 Lyle Kingery  
1993 LeRoy J. King\*  
1994 George Hubach  
1995 Clyde Killion\*  
1996 Bill Schwan\*  
1997 Nat Lord  
1998 John Buchanan\*  
1999 Art Lampert  
2000 Harry Heyen\*  
2001 Bob Beam  
2002 Rollin Cunningham

\*(deceased)